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# SPARTACUS PROJECT OF NEVADA

DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hall wood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402 Spartacus\_Project@hotmail.com

Monday, January 07, 2008

NEVADA PRISON COMMISSIONERS & ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE: Carson City, Nevada

#### COMMISSIONERS:

It is requested that the members of this commission read the following few pages. These few pages will give you a more complete picture of your responsibilities to the citizen's of Nevada. There is nothing decent within the Department of Corrections and the current Parole Board. As Taxpayers, we are disgusted with the waste of our taxes into a morally corrupt & failing system. Take charge of Nevada's prison system and replace the current dictators and replace them with decent human beings. Nevada's prison brutality by administratorss & guards—must stop. Like it or not, the men & women in Nevada's prisons are human beings

THE TIME FOR CHANGE IS NOW!	
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DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hallwood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402

Sunday, January 06, 2008

Prison Commissioners Carson City, Nevada

Re: BASIC CIVIL & HUMAN RIGHTS & REHABILITATION (Respectfully request these papers be part of the record.)

#### Commissioners:

It is certainly time this commission has agreed to meet before the public, since the ARC's mandate this meeting be held every 90 days. As a taxpayer and the father of a Nevada inmate – I say: "Thank you." (Who would have thought–it would take 10 years for this commission to finally obey the ARC laws?) My outrage towards the Nevada Department of Correction is not simply a father disturbed by the lack of medical treatment, or never ending brutality, or stupidity displayed by prison administrators and personnel towards their charges, but the overall picture we display to the rest of the world. Abu Gharib, Guantanamo Bay, China, North Korea, and lastly, Russia and their gulags, have nothing over NDOC's system of penal punishment. Nevada's trademark of: "The Mississippi Of The West," is no misnomer to Nevada's prisoners, families and/or taxpayers, all of the remaining 49 states, and most of the free world. It is a disgrace and must be replaced with thinking people, not brutalizing masters—believing this system within their fiefdoms benefits anyone but themselves, and their great paychecks. NDOC & the Parole Board have put the new spin on: "JOB SECURITY." However, bankruptcy for taxpayers.

You will realize there is no nice way to present to you something that has been festering within this state for the last twenty years of abuse. However, I believe, Nevada can no longer hide their heads in the sand towards this absurd & putrid treatment of prisoners. Do not rely on your Director of Prisons to tell you the straight facts on this system, nor should you rely on the Parole Board Commissioners to give straight facts. The day has come with a new administration to clean out this cesspool of outrage and rid ourselves of an odious part of Nevada history. Give this state a clean slate on HUMAN RIGHTS and be proud to be a Nevadan—once again.

I am encouraged by the formation of the "Advisory Commission On The Administration Of Justice." I never would have believed Justice Hardesty would make such a through examination of these pathetic Secret Societies called: "Nevada Department of Prisons & Parole Board," if I hadn't been witness to it myself. His suggestions to investigate these two entities and to call for an audit of same—may restore some faith in Nevada politics. It remains to be seen as to what develops in the coming months.

Let me give you some institutional problems you might like to look into as a fact finding commission:

- Destruction of personal property when searching cells of prisoners by guards. Family pictures etc..:
- 2. Delay of mail to prisoners, sometimes as much as three weeks, destroyed, or returned to sender;
- 3. Possible "lost" or theft, of authorized Christmas packages to inmates, as much as \$300 for packages;
- 4. Absolutely-never a return letter to family, friends, or the public, inquiring about a prisoner;
- 5. Writing of infractions with no validity, or childish, or not truthful, but can be harmful to prisoners;
- 6. Non-compliance for issue of state clothing, and/or blankets for warmth;
- 7. Continuous denial of medical treatment & denial of dental treatment for infected teeth & gums;
- 8. Continuous use of Administration Segregation for years at a time;
- 9. Confiscation of prisoner money-without due process; (Guards write, judge & fine prisoners.)
- 10. Continuous use of physical & verbal abuse by guards; (Prison Director calling prisoners "RATS.")
- 11. Abuse of Parole Board Commissioners for lengthy prison terms-many times not justified.



# DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hallwood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402

Sunday, January 06, 2008

Commissioners-Page 2.

My enclosed letter to Assistant Director of Prisons, Mr. Greg Cox, of the Casa Grande Transitional House here in Las Vegas, Nevada, and the overseer of Southern Nevada's prison system is enclosed for your viewing pleasure. It accurately describes my frustration with the prison system on the delivery of paid-for-packages to my son at High Desert State Prison and the delay, or non-delivery, of my mail to my son. All this to what end-because they can?

I spoke last Friday, January 04, 2008, to associate warden, one Mr. Baca, of High Desert State Prison relaying a message from my son to Mr. Baca. I told him of the delays of mail and the delay of my paid-for-in-advance-packages to my son. Mr. Baca told me: "I was misinformed and that all packages had been delivered." I told him: "He was mistaken and please check to make certain." Mr. Baca told me, once again: "I was misinformed." I asked him to hold on: "I was speaking to my son on another phone, and I would check my facts again." Mr. Baca hung up. Almost immediately, an officer arrived at my son's cell demanding he give the phone to him. My son waits days for the use of the phone, and it is on my dime that the phone calls go forth. I can only assume that Mr. Baca believed my son and I were three-way-calling on the prison phone. However, that was not the case. I was using my other private phone to report a possible crime of theft to the institution—perfectly legal. This is the mentality of a paranoid prison system and their employees. It is childish and disgusting to anyone over the age of 6.

If, Mr. Baca, accuses my son falsely of misuse of a phone—I want this action reversed immediately. This is just another case of the prison's stupidity and unreasonable tales of convicts misbehaving. When, in fact, it is prison personnel behaving badly. This coming from a man who makes adult decisions, within the prison system, that affects men's lives, many times affecting their release back into society. Can Nevada really continue keeping men of such low-caliber in a position of authority? You figure it out—you're the decision makers. Try to do the right thing.

The mail problem, still has not been resolved. Maybe an investigator from the post office is needed. It is a felony to keep addressed mail from the intended person of an addressed missle. Or, maybe the protection of a United States Postage Stamp has no meaning. Shall we find out?

I'd like to address the confiscating of prisoner's money for institutional fines. There are NRS filings that address this problem. However, it doesn't address Due Process of law for the taking of money sent to a prisoner. It isn't a prisoner's money-it is my money and I don't believe I should be paying the state of Nevada for something I clearly do not intend to pay for-with my money sent to my son for his personal needs. Like: Food, shaving material, blankets and clothing, and other necessities denied him by the state of Nevada for free. Has this state turned into a robber's roost? Trying to make the families of prisoners pay for the priviledge of trying to keep their loved ones alive and well? I'm asking...However, the money they are, and have been confiscating, was for an infraction dismissed by the previous Director of Prisons, Jackie Crawford, some years ago, through the grievance process. Check it out, apparently, Mr. Skolnik won't do the right thing-maybe you will. I know the prison system is short on money but this is outright theft. In fact, my son was sent from Southern Desert Correctional Center to Warm Springs in Carson City to participate in their Horse Program, as soon as Jackie Crawford absolved my son of the infraction in question for said fine-which she did. My son is an excellent horseman and farrier. The Horse Program was so poorly run that upon arriving-he wanted nothing to do with it. I don't know if the program ever went forward, or not, but the assigned man in charge left shortly thereafter. I'm thankful for the horses. You don't transfer from SDCC to Warm Springs with a recent prison rules infraction. Mr. Skolnik should know that-he knows everything else.

For the sake of brevity, I'll sign off on this letter of information. Hopefully, you'll find it useful, and address some of the mentioned items and correct them—as it should be—if you are serious about getting respect back into the population of Nevada—by correcting the abuses of prison personnel and administrators. This isn't a go-away-situation. It is abuse & theft under color of authority. I wish your commission good luck & success if you are trying for positive change. Respectfully submitted.



# DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hall wood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402 Spartacus\_Project@hotmail.com

Tuesday, January 01, 2008

Mr. Greg Cox, Associate Director of prisons 3955 West Russel Road Las Vegas, Nevada 89118

Re: Donald Hinton, #95639 H.D.S.P.

Attn: Cynthia

Dear Sir.

This letter is written to you because Suzie, in Director Skolnik's office, sent me to you for the following problems:

1. Mail delivery at High Desert State Prison has completely fallen down on delivery to the prisoners, and I speak directly for my son. He hasn't received his mail for approximately three (3) weeks, and never within an acceptable time table. Always 7 to 10 days late—after I have placed it in the mail. This time it has completely gone overboard. I write my son, at least, two times a week—sometimes more than that. In fact, I have complained to Warden Nevens on this postal matter before. And, I received a letter from Warden Nevens in return—explaining to me that there is an alternative way for addressing prisoner's mail. However, for years I have addressed my son's letters in the exact manner as the one I just had returned to me this day. There is no mistake on the addressing of my letters to my son—that it is in any way improper. I have checked with the post office at Indian Springs, Nevada, if there was, in any way, something wrong with the way I had been addressing my letters to my son? Their answer: "Any letter addressed in this manner—would be delivered to the prison." The non-delivery of my letters does not rest with the postal authorities. It rests within the prison. My question is: "Why."

I am going to make a copy of my returned letter's envelope. It is marked: "No Inmate Number." This is beyond belief, very insulting and stupid to any one who can read—even at the third grade level. My letter is properly addressed. Possibly, the officer who marked my letter for return—could use a remedial math or reading class.

The letter I received from Warden Neven was, in and of itself, confusing. It did not directly address my concerns about my mailings, except to straighten the issue of which zip code to use for the prison. He offered alternative ways to address letters, but never said the one I sent to him for viewing — addressed to my son and to give him the facts of which I was speaking, was not, in any way, wrongly addressed. Nor, did he say my son's number was not on the returned letter. Nor, did he say he would ask the mail room to be more considerate. That was overlooked. We both know how that goes. That letter I gave to Warden Nevens addressed to my son, also, stated: "Needs Inmate Number." That letter is available, but not as of this writing. I don't have time to look for it.

I am not going to blind side you. I think you can have these problems ironed out to everyone's satisifaction, but on January 03, 2008 –I am addressing the above mentioned, and other problems, with the Committee on Judiciary Justice in front of Commissioner/Supreme Court Justice Hardesty, and the rest of the committee. Some things just cannot be permitted to continue. Keeping an inmate from his family via letters is one of them.

2. In addition, I have purchased both a food package, and a clothing package, for my son's personal use, as authorized by the prison. My son has been notified that his packages were available to him several weeks ago, but the unit officers have decided that no one will get the packages, because the officers refuse to collect them for their entire unit. This isn't just simply a forgotten item—it is a deliberate refusal for someone to do their job. And if I am mistaken on who has the responsibility to get this simple task done—I leave that in your hands to see that someone takes responsibility. If, no one else, maybe the warden, or assistant warden, can give you a job description on who has the responsibility to get these family-paid-for-packages to the prisoners—as I have notified both of them three times. My phone records will bear this out.

Trusting you will have a great New Year. Respectfully,

Chandel Stenton, Ar



DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hallwood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402

Sunday, January 06, 2008

104.

#### To Whom It May Concern:

Below is listed the approved High Desert State prison packages ordered by myself, Donald Hinton, Sr., for my son, Donald Hinton 11 #95639—at High Desert State Prison as his Christmas package for the year 2007.

Food Package ordered on December 03, 2007.

Package sent December 04, 2007.

Package arrived at High Desert State Prison December 07, 2007.

Tracking number: 1Z5X0809035148626.

1075%

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Clothing Package ordered December 03, 2007.

Package sent December 07, 2007.

Package delivered to High Desert State Prison on December 10, 2007.

Tracking number: 1Z5X08090351510396.

Certified copy to be mailed to me at my address in Las Vegas, Nevada.

That is the name of that tune. All interested parties are welcome to the information being delivered to the District Attorney-in Las Vegas, Nevada-as soon as it arrives.

PACENGE DELIVERED DELIVERE

WHY WAS IT NECESSARY FOR A PARENT TO GO TO THIS EXTENT OF TIME & WORK TO GET THE PRISON TO DO THEIR JOB!" BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JIM GIBBONS

GOVERNOR

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO

ATTORNEY GENERAL

ROSS MILLER

SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF NEVADA



HOWARD SKOLNIK

DIRECTOR

GREG COX

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DWIGHT NEVEN

WARDEN

#### DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Leading Nevada Corrections Into the Future HIGH DESERT STATE PRISON PO BOX 650 INDIAN SPRINGS NV 89070-0650 702-679-6769 Fax. (702) 897-6618

October 31, 2007

Donald Hinton, Sr. 1919 E. Hallwood Drive Las Vegas, NV 89119

Re: U.S. Mail

Mr. Hinton:

I am in receipt of your correspondence dated October 19, 2007 wherein you request the correct zip code for High Desert State Prison and inquire about your delayed mail.

As for the correct zip code, that number would be 89070. The U.S. Postal Service changed the zip code form 89018 to 89070 approximately two years ago. Some envelopes with High Desert State Prison's pre-printed address may still have the old zip code. The cost of reprinting envelopes to change only the zip code is not in our budget or cost effective which as a taxpayer I'm sure you appreciate. Therefore, many employees must use the older envelopes until the supply has been depleted.

Your request to "enlighten" you on the reason behind your delayed mail is apparent from the copy of the envelope you have enclosed. The Post Office returned it to you because they feel it is not a complete address. I offer two suggestions to expedite your mail:

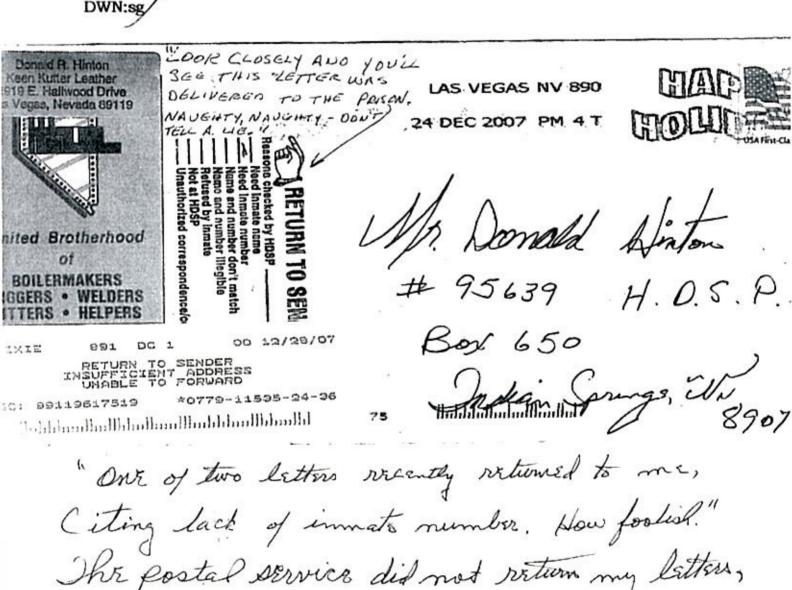
High Desert State Prison P.O. Box 650 Indian Springs, NV 89070 Attn: Donald Hinton #95639

OR

Donald Hinton #95639 c/o High Desert State Prison P.O. Box 650 Indian Springs, NV 89070 With regard to your final paragraph criticizing our efforts to deliver mail I would like to remind you that the U.S. Postal Service refused to deliver your mail as a result of the manner in which it was addressed. Additionally, I do not understand your comments regarding mail between High Desert State Prison and Southern Desert Correction Center. Has your son's mail been sent to Southern Desert Correctional Center in error? If that is the case, this is not an NDOC issue but a Postal issue as they are responsible for allocating mail to the correct Post Office If the mail does need to be sent from one facility to another, Postal Regulations dictate U.S. Mail received that is undeliverable to an addressee must be forwarded via U.S.P.S. to the intended recipient.

I hope this addressed your concern.

D. W. Neven, Warden High Desert State Prison



The prison staff at High Desent State Prison



### DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hallwood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402

March, 15, 2007

Nevada Department of Corrections P. O. Box 98687 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8687 Re: Donald Hinton #95639 USPS: # 10622094658 # 100, 99

Gentlemen:

Please accept this money order without a money coupon. This money is for the exclusive use of Donald Hinton, #95639, currently housed at High Desert State Prison.

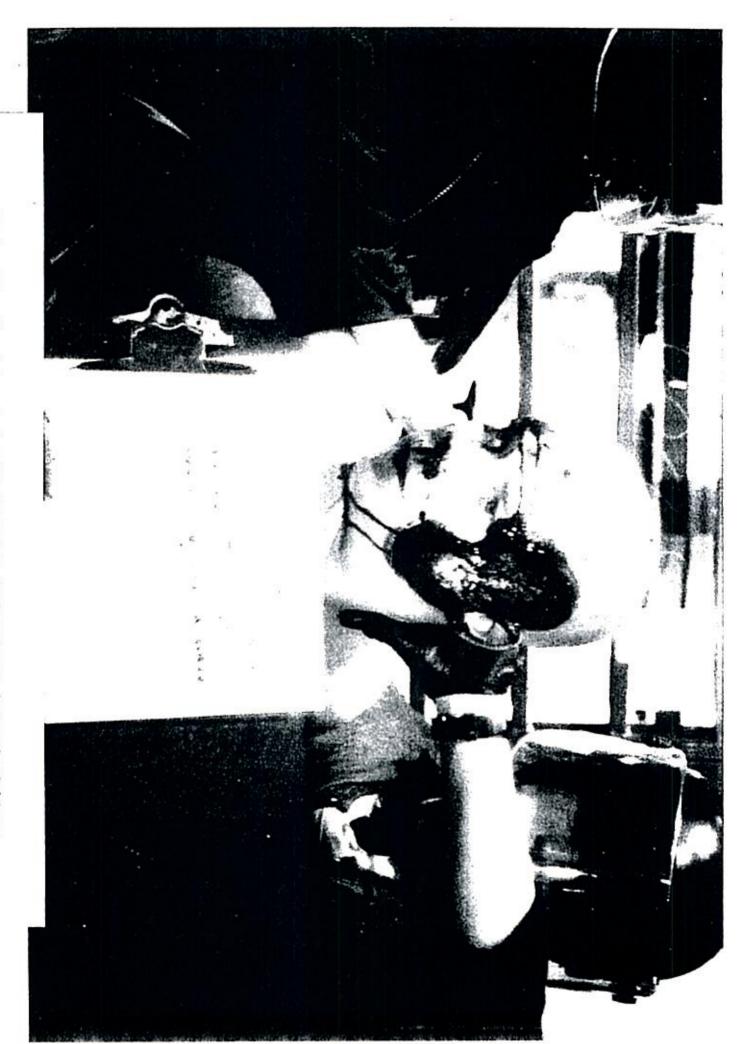
If, any part of this money goes to the state—for any reason, return it to me without question. I am not interested in subsidizing this state in any manner or fashion. You take enough of my taxes for the prison system.

Currently, we, the citizens of Nevada, are asking the legislators to rid themselves of this Kangaroo system of stealing money from inmates families and/or loved ones by continuing to level institutional "fines" without due process of law. Re: Court awarded.

Again, this money is for the exclusive use of Donald Hinton, #95639, for the use of institutional purchases for legal items sold through the institutional canteens, such as stamps, envelopes, food, candy or other items listed for sale through the institutional canteens.

Thank you for your consideration.

	UNITED POSTAL	STATES CUSTOMER'S RECEIPT	
Donald Hinton, S	KEEP THIS RECEIPT FOR YOUR RECORDS	PAT TO. N. D. O. C.:  ACCOPESS POROX 98687  C.O. D. OR USEN FOR	SEE BACK OF THIS PECCEPT FOR IMPORTANT CLASS INFORMATION NOT NEGOTIABLE
Cc: file  Assemblyperson B Assemblyman Dav Assemblyman Mon Senator Bob Beers Senator Mike Schn	1,0622 aroara Buck id Parks ris Arberry	YEAR, MORTH, DAY POST OFFICE ANOUNT   100	and the last of



This is a picture of Inmate Inman beaten at Ely Prison state. Number unknown. I gave colored pictures to Senator Ann O'Connell and Assemblyman Harvery Mumford. Both promised to return the photosneither did. Comment in pen over the signature of Warden McDaniels: "Trophy photograph." "Nice-huh?" Your tax dollars at work. Photo obtained from Court house in Ely, Nevada in 2001.



DONALD HINTON, DIRECTOR 1919 Hallwood Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 (702) 740-0402

Tuesday, January 08, 2008

I propose to the Director of Prisons, Mr. Howard Skolnik, that he drop his expensive medical inusrance plan and replace it with the same wonderful medical plan he praises that is used within Nevada Prisons for Nevada's inmates. Possibly, Mr. Skolnik would recommend his Prison Plan to his Governor, and the rest of the Prison Commissioners. Surely, it is a worthy plan!

# ACLU urges reforms in prison health care

By BRENDAN RILEY

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARSON CITY — The American Civil Liberties Union, following up on earlier claims of "gross medical abuse" at Nevada's maximum-security Ely State Prison, urged state Prison Board members on Monday to avoid a drawn-out legal battle by agreeing to reforms.

The ACLU, in a letter to Gov. Jim Gibbons, Attorney General Catherine Cortez-Masto and Secretary of State Ross Miller, asked for a response to a proposed consent decree by Jan. 22 "in order to avoid protracted litigation."

Gibbons spokeswoman Melissa Subbotin said it would take "some time" to review the ACLU request, adding that the proposed decree would apply to "a complex series of health standards" now in place for Nevada prisons.

The three Prison Board members and state Corrections Director Howard Skolnik, who also got the ACLU letter, were scheduled to meet in the capital today.

Skolnik said be didn't want to comment on the ACLU request until he could go over the consent decree proposal with legal counsel. The prisons chief also said the request wasn't on today's Prison Board agenda.

Skolnik has said he disagreed

with findings in an earlier ACLU report on prison medical care, written by Dr. William Noel, and believes that medical care provided inmates at the Ely prison meets with constitutional requirements.

Nocl said in his report that at least one convict at the prison, which houses Nevada's death row inmates, "has already died an unnecessary, slow and agonizing death" and more such deaths and unnecessary suffering are probable without prompt changes at the prison.

The ACLU's report was based on a review of medical records of 35 prisoners.

In one of the more "shocking" cases, Noel said death row inmate Patrick Cavanaugh, was denied insulin for three years, which caused him to develop gangrene that went untreated. The doctor said medical staffers at the prison "left him to rot to death."

The ACLU has questioned why Cavanaugh was cremated immediately after death without an autopsy or prior contact with next of kin.

Skolnik has said the cremations were in line with procedures that have been in place for years. He also said that a family member can get an inmate's body, but a written request has to be submitted in advance in cases of convicts with terminal illnesses.



# Road Sprinkler Fitters Local Union No. 669

**VOLUME 35, NO. 9** 

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SEPTEMBER 2006

A success story from Spartacus Group and Western \*\*\*
States Fire Protection

John,

Here is the success story I was telling you about. I hope that you can use it in your NewsLetter.

We finally have a man with whom we can fulfill our career opportunity promise! We hired Jason Williams on August 9, 2005. Jason is the Apprentice in residential you always hope for.

He started at \$11.00 per hour, bumped to \$12.00 on September 26, 2005, then again to \$15.00 on November 28, 2005.

On February 24, 2006, Jason took his test for the State Fire Marshal "J" card and passed, missing only two questions. For that, we raised him again to \$17.00.

We have a job starting in 2 to 4 weeks for which he will be perfect. At that time, we will make him a Residential Foreman, making over \$22 per hour. All this in less than 6 months. Success!!! Troy Robinson Operations Manager

The Spartacus Group is headed up by Don Hinton, a retired Business Manager of the Boilermakers. He works within the justice system to assist young men get back on track with their lives and careers. Got any more Jason's, Don?



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John L. Panici Organizer, District #25 P.O. Box 91856 Henderson, NV 89009-1856 (702) 566-9024 fax: (702) 566-9079 jlpuarsflu669@cox.net

Road Sprinkler Fitters U.A. Local Union No. 669 7050 Oakland Mills Road - Suite 200 - Columbia, Maryland 21046 (410) 381-4300 - fax: (301) 621-8045 - www.sprinklerfitters669.org Please tell me where in the Nevada Constitution it says that certain people can be taxed a special tax?

For discussion sake let's call it a prison tax. Every person who knows someone that is incarcerated pays this tax. It's not called a tax, it comes to us in the form of exorbitant charges for telephone calls, commissary items, food and clothing packages, etc....

This tax is unfair since it does not meet the criteria stated in the Nevada Constitution as being uniform and equal. This is the epitome of taxation without representation, and it is unlawful and unconstitutional.

In fact, it is a forced tax. We didn't get to vote on it, we have no Assembly person or Senator to blame for it, write about it or complain to. The truth is we have NO RECOURSE. We pay it or else we don't get telephone calls, and the people that we care about go hungry and naked since the prisons do not actually provide for an inmate as much as they keep telling the public they do. We know and live a completely opposite reality.

These men and women have been incarcerated by the State for crimes committed (or supposedly committed in the case of wrongful convictions) against laws that were enacted by the State, and it is the responsibility of every person in this State to bear the burden of housing, feeding, clothing and providing for their medical care. Not just the responsibility of a select few. If the people who vote for these laws want to lock these people up, they need to also understand that these people are human and require human needs such as clothing, shelter, food, and medical care.

The director of the prisons has circumvented the laws of this State by implementing these services with these fees, and our State representatives have turned a blind eye to this unlawful and unconstitutional revenue stream which has been implemented by the prison system because it suits their purposes; to obtain additional funds to cover the cost of incarceration, but at the expense of a limited few so that they don't have to go to the people of the State and ask for additional taxes.

This is simply a sneaky and underhanded way to fund the prisons without the input of the voting, taxpaying public.

We strongly urge you to address the inequality in this practice while keeping in mind that it is the duty and obligation of the State of Nevada to provide for the inmates humanely with the goal of education and rehabilitation.

#### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

#### ARTICLE, 10. - Taxation.

Section 1. Uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation; exceptions and exemptions; inheritance and income taxes prohibited.

The Legislature shall provide by law for a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation, and shall
prescribe such regulations as shall secure a just valuation for taxation of all property, real, personal and possessory,
except mines and mining claims, which shall be assessed and taxed only as provided in Section 5 of this Article.

#### ARTICLE, 13. - Public Institutions,

Sec: 2. State prison: Establishment and maintenance; juvenile offenders. A State Prison shall be established and maintained in such manner as may be prescribed by law, and provision may be made by law for the establishment and maintainance [maintenance] of a House of Refuge for Juvenile Offenders.

Mchelle Rancell 702-654-7579